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VOL. 2



CALGARY, NOV. 6, 1918

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No. 23

IN MEMORIAM

When the last sunshine of expiring
 day
 In summer's twilight weeps itself
 away,
 Who hath not felt the softness of the
 hour
 Sink on the heart, as dew along the
 flower?
 Even as the tenderness that hour
 instills
 When summer's day declines along the
 hills,
 So feels the fulness of our heart and
 eyes,
 When all of genius which can perish
 dies.

A mighty spirit is eclipsed--a power
 Hath passed from day to darkness--
 The flash of wit, the bright intelligence
 The beam of song, the blaze of elo-
 quence,
 Set with this sun, but still have left
 behind
 The enduring produce of immortal
 mind:
 Fruits of a genial morn, and glorious
 noon,
 A deathless part of him who died too
 soon.

—Lord Byron.

"Oh, yes, but it won't come in our
 time!" How often is that selfish objection
 hurled at the reformer. Suppose everyone
 said that--would anything ever be done?
 Is there no glory in building for the
 future? And the funny part of it is that
 while people are saying, "It won't come
 in our time", it is coming all the time.
 There's none so blind as those who won't
 see!!!

Read "Why No Politics?" By Jas.
 Weir, M.L.A., on page 8.

BE TRUE!

"This above all, to thine own self be
 true,
 And it must follow as the night the
 day,
 Thou canst not then be false to any
 man."

* * *

The Germans have abandoned the
 Goose Step for Foch's Trot.

* * *

The Kaiser thought it was grain, but
 it was only wild oats--and the harvest
 is in full swing.

THE PRICE OF WHEAT

"Price fixing, even if seemingly low,
 may come, in mighty handy should peace
 let loose the stored wheat crops of Russia,
 India and Australia."

This comment applies very well to the
 United States, but has no bearing to
 Canada. In Canada the price set is a
 MAXIMUM--and prices can go as low as
 they like. There is nothing in our fixed
 price except a guarantee that growers
 cannot get more than a certain amount
 for their wheat, which runs down as low
 as \$2.05 or less in many cases.

That more complaint has not been made
 proves one of two things: either it is con-
 sidered a fair and profitable price, or else
 the producers are willing to grow wheat
 without a profit. In many cases at least
 the latter has been the result.—The Weekly
 Sun, Toronto.

* * *

CAPITALISTS AND NEWS- PAPERS.

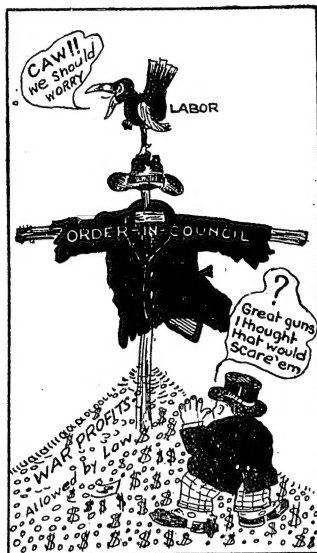
"The time is past when a man like John
 Brown, or Horse Greeley could start a
 daily newspaper like the Toronto Globe, or
 the New York Tribune, with a few hundred
 or a few thousand dollars."

"Unless you can do what Northcliffe did
 (and men like Northcliffe are as rare as Na-
 poleons), you must be a capitalist with a
 mighty long purse, to think of starting
 a newspaper." "And to exhort a capitalist
 who owns a newspaper to run it in the in-
 terests of truth and progress, is about
 as reasonable as to exhort a capitalist who
 owns a mill, or a factory, to run it for the
 public good, instead of for his own private
 advantage."—W. J. Healey, in the Grain
 Growers' Guide.

* * *

Dick—What are you laughing at?
 Mary—Your whiskers. Dick—Is there
 anything humorous in their appearance?
 Mary—No; but somehow they tickle me.

Read "A Defence of the Grain
 Growers," on Pages 10 and 11.



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CURRENT HISTORY

I am informed by the Editor of the Alberta Non-Partisan, whom to meet is a real pleasure and to know is a Liberal Education, that certain good people have taken exception to my articles of late on the ground that they are too personal, too full of vinegar and vitrol, and a little too painfully over irritant for the hypersensitive souls who indulge in the pastime of reading now and then the real paper of this province—The Non-Partisan.

This is interesting but not exciting. Anyone who makes comment and passes opinions must bear criticism. Even Christ in his day found his Mesopotamian campaign full of opponents who said 'his gospel was too strong, too rigorous altogether.' In fact, history records that many people were offended and some went away sorrowing.

Some people seem to want a paper about as much like a weak solution of milk and water as anything can be made. Such people should subscribe for the Southern Cross, The Northern Messenger or the Searchlight.

There is another class who want their opinions made and unmade for them by the Board of Trade and the Calgary Herald. These people like to explain how much the sympathize with labor—except on the particular point which happens to be under discussion at that time. On that one thing they are downright sore on labor—The Herald is an admirable paper for that class. There are others who wish to have a few facts presented—some opportunities for forming conclusions and a forthright and downright presentation of truth—these people read the Non-Partisan.

Occasionally some people tell us we not sufficiently constructive in our policy! What is meant by constructive policy? There is need of construction in Northern France and Belgium, but two things are essential. First: Drive out the Hun. Second: Pick up the rubbish and clean up the ground. Well, things are pretty much the same in Canada. We must drive out the Hun—clean up the old ground—remove the rubbish and then begin construction. Until then why fight—it's the naked sword of truth we use.

Let us examine the different methods of attack. Take for instance the question of Mr. Gariepy's Expense Account. We might have said, "In one of the Western provinces which lies along side the Rocky Mountains there was, or was said to be, a Minister of Municipalities who tipped the messenger boys and girls to such an extent that his expense account grew and grew until it became so big that tall as he was the Premier of that Province could not see over it and desiring to obtain a vision of the common people round about he did cause, or permit to be caused or allowed, the sub-

conscious mind of the expensive individual to cause the thought of retirement to enter into the brain of this aforesaid minister, and he did retire from the business of being a Cabinet Minister and was not known any longer in that province."

Candidly we do not think things should be treated thus and yet some people seem to like it. There is nothing offensive about it—there is a beating of the circumambient atmosphere which pleases some people.

It is interesting to reflect that in the old days newspapers avoided libel by referring to those they wanted to criticize as Mr. G—y leaving a blank for the missing letters, and one of the Walter family, founders of the Times in England was sent to prison for that very trick. He referred to two sons of our late German King, George III in very scathing terms but disguised the dose by writing the D-k- of Cl---n-e and P---e of W---s, but the courts did not hold him blameless and he got two years in jail. Wonder if anybody would suspect if we told what we really think about things and left out the letters thus:U---n Gov't is a --- fake.

Just the other day the Albertan published a little note that must have offended some people. It referred to Senator Michener as a "liar"! In the first place this was probably untrue. Michener never said anything in his life—therefore he could not tell a lie. Mr. M. opens his mouth, the reporters think they hear something but they don't, Mr. M. never said it. Any way it is not necessary to use a fifteen inch gun to smash a mine sweeper. Mr. Davidson on that occasion simply unlimbered too much artillery for the job in hand. Someone wrote of Dr. Johnson:—

"Town I like not Johnson's turgid style,
Which gives to an inch the importance
of a mile,

Casts of manure a wagon load around
To raise a simple daisy from the ground."

Or again we have the story of a gunner on one of the British Ships at the battle of Jutland. He saw a torpedo boat headed toward his ship in the midst of the battle and turning one fifteen inch gun on it he blew it out of the water with one shot but the captain saw him and wirelessly this message: "A bit wasteful wasn't it—wouldn't a smaller shot have done the work?"

That's it.

'Why bid ocean labor with tremen-
dous roar

To heave a cockle shell upon the
shore

Uplift the Club of Hercules for
what—

To brain a minnow or to crush a
gnat".

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This man Michener is a contemptible rag—He is always going to do something big—but he never produces—and merely being a Senator is a small job for a man, especially when he has had the chance Mitchener had and never used it.

Now all this is mere persiflage but I want to write something in this concluding paragraph. Gaetz licked Galbraith by a majority of over 800. Galbraith is a very decent straightforward man who would have been a help in that House, but he played too close to the Unionists. The Unionists as a party gained office by fraud and a framed ballot. Decent people are sick of them and so despite the fact that Gaetz had Mitchell and Geo. Priceless Smith working for him he got in by a good stiff majority. If the Hon Chas. Stewart is only a progressive he will hold this province in the hollow of his hand next election That's the only "if" there is to it—Is he?

Now what is the lesson of this by-election? Simply this! The Unionist Government was crooked. It bought the farmers support of conscription. It constructed for its own benefit a class franchise. It adopted a policy of duplicity and crookedness. If it went before the people to-day it would be wiped out of existence In thought and idea it is despotic, ignorant, arrogant and German, and the Canadian people won't stand for it. Stewart's chances consist of putting the lid on the Unionist element and coming out as a real progressive. Despite the jokes that have been made of it, and it was humorous in a way, the new Liberalism or perhaps the New Radicalism is the course of action for Stewart. Sometimes I fear he will not go that way. But it is the only way known among men whereby he may be saved. Stewart has the tremendous advantage of being honest. It is an advantage enjoyed by none too many in public life. It is his biggest asset. If he can be ruthlessly honest and progressive at the same time his opportunity is big. May be so—some one has got to do something, it may as well be Stewart.

Capt. Chas. Taylor has received an important government appointment. This would hardly have been possible under the old days of patronage—it would have seemed too gross but to-day when patronage is abolished it is different. Well, it's funny—if it was n't tragic.—THE WANDERER

The World-President

I may be first to do it, but I hereby make a nomination for the first President of the German Republic—Karl Liebnacht. I go further and nominate him as the second president of the world-republic. The first will be, of course, Woodrow Wilson, it will be his task to bind up the wounds of the war and keep the various nations from troubling one another while they accomplish their social revolutions and abolish the profit systems within their own borders.

After that is done there is none who could serve better than the German who stood forth and branded German infamy before the whole world, choosing to spend in prison the time it was carrying out its raid on civilization! Karl Liebnacht will come out of prison to be crowned with the praise of all mankind, and I know no man whose place in history I could envy more. —UPTON SINCLAIR

Read "An Appeal to Action" by John Glambeck, on page 7.

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The Sympathetic Strike

By Alex. Ross, M.L.A.



The Freight Handlers' dispute which culminated in a sympathetic strike has terminated. The terms were the best that could be got but cannot be construed to mean a victory. Unfortunately a number of freight handlers and teamsters are not reinstated, had all been reinstated the strike would have been successful. The reinstatement of the twenty-five freight handlers will be referred to the Railway War Adjustment Board No. 1. The teamsters were not quite so fortunate but an effort will be made to secure a board to adjust their grievances also.

Now that the strike is over those who participated might indulge in a little reflection, not so much as to the origin of the strike, the merits of that will be dealt with by the Board. The primary cause of the strike is that the C.P.R. have a natural and traditional antipathy to labor organizations and will not recognize them until they can demonstrate they are a power. The freight handlers could not demonstrate that alone and would have been absolutely defeated had it not been for the timely assistance of other organizations.

This is the first time that a sympathetic strike of such magnitude has taken place in Calgary. The strike was called with but little preparation for its direction but the enthusiasm of the strikers was such as to overcome these obstacles. Towards the latter end of the strike the issue was becoming clouded by the passing of the anti-strike Order-in-Council; had the five men been prosecuted a general strike in open defiance would have taken place throughout the West and the original issue relegated to the background.

The strikers have now experimented with their industrial power; let us hope that the strike besides saving the freight handlers from complete annihilation will prove an object lesson. At least we have had a demonstration of the latent power of the mass when intelligently organized and directed.

There are three schools of progressive thought in the labor movement in Canada. All agree that a change in our social system is desirable. The first believe the change can be brought about by Political Action; the second by joint Political and Industrial Action; the third by Industrial or Direct Action alone. Direct action as labor is organized to-day means a sympathetic strike and much has been written during the last week about this industrial weapon.

The Southam's paper would fairly represent a certain element in this City, this paper professed its sympathy but deplored the sympathetic strike. Southam's local editor has just returned from a joy-ride to France at the expense of the strikers, naturally he would be sympathetic but he would not allow his sympathy to interfere with his business. "Oh, no." Neither would he allow the strong union to help the weak, rather would he enforce the famous Order-in-Council. He admits the C.P.R. were wrong but we were just as immoral when we protested against the injustice by striking, we ought to have imitated the

editor by shedding tears in the editorial chair, had all expressed their sympathy, like Southam's editor, the C.P.R. would have nothing to fear.

The objection to the sympathetic strike was that the unions by striking broke their contract thereby causing the innocent unnecessary suffering. To the first objection none of the unions entered into a contract agreeing not to strike in sympathy, all agreed to work for certain conditions named in the contract. In the absence of a pledge or contract not to strike in sympathy no contract was violated. To the second objection that the innocent were compelled to suffer with the guilty, there can be no innocents, all are guilty for a social system that allows a corporation to impose unbearable conditions on its employees.

I have been asked if I favor the sympathetic strike. I have always been opposed to it on ethical grounds, but because of its impotency. A sympathetic strike can be justified by the cause it fights for. If an injustice is being done and a sympathetic strike can remedy it, humanity benefits, therefore it is justifiable.

A compromise in the settlement was made necessary because the strike was incomplete. An analysis of the strike will show conclusively that the strike could not have been carried much further locally,—not because non-union help were employed in the freight sheds, but because the engineers and others kept on working. Had they shown the same spirit as other sympathetic strikers the terms of settlement would have been different, like the Herald the running trades shed tears of sympathy but to give material assistance interfered with business.

The sympathetic or general strike has never come up to the expectations of its ardent supporters because it is so difficult to get the unity of action and purpose necessary to carry a strike to a successful issue.

In many countries where the sympathetic strike has been tried the old form of organization by crafts is disappearing and organization by industry taking its place; for example, all employed in the operation of the lines of communication and transportation to be in one organization, the same with the building trades, etc. One trade agreement to embody all branches so that in the event of a dispute arising the whole staff would cease work until the dispute was settled.

If labor is to survive against highly organized capital it must adopt this form of organization. The sympathetic strike is somewhat crude, it can only be regarded as a step in the development of labor organizations, the next industrial unionism.

Read "Our Ottawa Letter," page 14.



SOME RESULTS OF THE STRIKE

By a (One Time) Freight Worker

We would fain sing at this time: The strike is o'er, the battle won; but unfortunately altho the strike is over and a measure of success has been achieved, the battle is by no means won. In fact, there are amongst us, those who cannot for the life of them see that anything has been accomplished, they point out that 25 of the members are being sacrificed and like Jeremiah they are full of lamentations.

However, despite all assertion to the contrary substantial gains have been made and we are optimistic enough to believe that when the Board of Adjustment are in possession of all the facts, the cardinal principles which govern the relationship between Railroad Unions and Railroad Managers will be applied to Freight Handlers and Clerks. The pessimist will probably say that we are by no means sure of this. We can only say that six of the members of the Board of Adjustment represent Brotherhoods to whom these principles are life or death and we think of no circumstance, line of reasoning or justice which will allow them to deny us the rights which they hold inviolate.

The right of collective bargaining, being conceded, all other things will be given in exact proportion to the strength and efficacy of the organization and it would be well to remember that some of the R.R. Brotherhood were in existence a good many years before they established this principle.

The results of the strike are however, deeper and more far reaching than the immediate and tangible gains would indicate.

First of importance, perhaps, are the lessons that might and should be learned from the sympathetic strike. The attempt that was made to unify the forces of labor showed, as no amount of theorising will ever show, first, the inadequacy of the Craft Organizations with their constitutions and International Affiliations to ever be a force strong or potent enough to be a dependable factor in any struggle that does not cover a large area.

Second, that the machinery for carrying on a General Strike is so weak, that no man or set of men who are capable of feeling responsible for the after effects will, unless as a last resort, set such machinery in motion. The lessons that may be learnt in this connection alone would be sufficient recompense for the struggle.

Another lesson is, that we have again been shown who are the friends of the Organized Labor Movement. To some of us, this perhaps, is an oft told tale, but others have had it brought home with a severe jolt, that when it comes to a show-down the Boards of Trade, the old line politicians, the most of the newspapers, and, I hesitate to say it, but the conclusion is forced upon me, that the Orthodox Church, be it Anglican or Methodist is on the side of the Big Battalions and it would appear that the Moneyed Interests and the followers of the lowly carpenter of Nazareth have settled down to the conviction that their common foe is Unionized Labor.

Put briefly these are some of the results of the strike, what other results may come only Time and the Board of Adjustment will show,

—One of the Twenty-five.

The war profiteer is also the peace profiteer. For nine out of every ten people he changes their life from one of peace and plenty to one of struggle and privation and misery and death.

"Politics is the business of the people"



The Alberta Non-Partisan

For the creation of Independent and Progressive Thought and Action.

Published on alternate Thursdays

Wm. Irvine, Editor J. H. Ford, Business Mgr

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ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

There is no wealth but life. That country is the richest which nourishes the greatest number of noble and happy human beings.—Ruskin.

HARRY JOHNSON Harry Johnson is dead. A sudden attack of Pneumonia was the cause. Harry was known to every one who has been actively associated with the Non-Partisan Movement. Young, vigorous and alert, he was the real spirit of the active force in the organization. He was in it because he was a Democrat—because he felt the need of democratic action—because the party system meant the decline of decency and self-respect in Canadian politics, and because he felt as a man that political decency was worth fighting for.

Now he is dead. But no man ever dies. From the pebble pitched carelessly into the placid lake concentric rings reach out to the farthest shore. From a life of usefulness there is an immortality of influence. The blows struck against the evils of to-day may seem to bring small results, but our perspective is too narrow—it is impossible to measure results of the work of to-day in the sweep of the ages of time.

Dead! Our task is greater. The machinery of this organization must take up the strain of which he bore so large a part. And to that task may we bring something of the energy and spirit and purpose which actuated Harry Johnson.

THE "FLU" The Spanish "Flu" is a plague which has now spread so far as to be beyond control. We must put upon the shoulders of our governmental authorities at Ottawa the blame for many of the deaths which this scourge has caused, and once again it has been demonstrated that business is more important in the mind of the Government than human life. Even

from this viewpoint it is a case of being "penny wise" and "pound foolish."

There was no prompt action or real effort made to prevent the influenza plague getting further West than Toronto. Where was the Order-in-Council prohibiting all travel until such time as the plague subside, and making provision for the proper disinfecting of all mails, express and freight? This would have interfered with profits and dividends so was not done, but the disease itself has interfered to the extent that traffic has been seriously interfered with.

The prompt action of the Alberta Government, and of the City of Calgary has done much to prevent the spread of influenza locally, but when it is being brought in train loads every day local authorities are helpless. If the Dominion Government had acted as promptly and effectively as the Alberta Health Department there would have been much less "flu" west of Toronto, and hundreds of lives have been saved.

ONTARIO FARMERS AWAKE! The West has been led to believe that the East is backward and Ontario in particular

is looked upon as a hot bed of partyism. But recent events would seem to indicate that the farmers of Ontario are being aroused, and judging from the way they have started out the Western farmers will soon have to hurry in order to keep them in sight.

In the by-election just held in the provincial constituency of Manitoulin the U.F.O. backed a young and capable farmer as an independent candidate against the nominee of the two old parties, and elected him by over 500 majority. The farmers throughout the whole province of Ontario are astir; they are preparing for political action; they are educating themselves and are organizing their own paper. The two old parties have fought their last fight unopposed in Ontario, and will have henceforth to meet the newly organized farmers' movement.

This good news from Ontario should come to the West as an encouragement, and should give confidence and inspire enthusiasm in the new political movement in this and other Western Provinces. This independent political movement beginning among the people outside of party leadership is the only way in which it will be possible to bridge the ever widening chasm between the East and West. Party politicians financed by the large Eastern interests have played the East against the West for their nefarious schemes until Canada stands

to-day divided against herself. But with the farmers entering politics in Ontario, and the Western independent movement spreading over the Province the two will surely meet on a broad programme for Canada in the near future. On with the organization—on with the education—Canada for Democracy in a generation!

THE RED DEER ANSWER TO UNIONISM The result of the Red Deer election will be taken by the Liberal

machine of the Province as an endorsement of the Stewart Government, the fact is however, that it represents a slap in the face for the Autocrats of Ottawa. The Union Government which has not held office one year has literally made the people of Canada sick; it has measured up to none of its opportunities save in jingoism; it has done more talking than most other Governments.

In several provincial bye-elections the Union Government idea has been tried, but in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta the Union Government candidates have been overthrown. This is sure evidence that the Union Government is in itself a thing of the moment, and which the people will not tolerate after the war. If Mr. Galbraith had remained free from the entanglements of Ottawa, and stood as a real independent he may have been elected. He is a good man, and in a fair fight might have won, but no man is great enough to win a Provincial seat with the Union Government on his back. We trust that Mr. Galbraith will see his folly in this and swing clear of all machines and stand with the N.P.L. for Democracy. He has said what he thinks of the Stewart administration, the people have told him by their ballots what they think of the Union Government. If Mr. Galbraith be sincere in his opposition to Partyism he will fight on the N.P.L. platform.

THE METHODIST CONFERENCE AND THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION The daily paper headline given to the Methodist General

Conference news item would have startled a goodly number of the public. The Church has seldom if ever declared itself against the present system; it has upheld individualism, preached against petty sins of the individual, but ignored the great social crimes, and has been hitherto blind to her opportunity to serve the present age. What shall we think then when the chief executive council of one of the largest churches in the Dominion of Canada commits itself to an "economic revolution" and

declares for co-operation and service as against competition and profits?

There are many men and women in the ranks of organized labor, or in other active work leading toward the social order now desired by the Methodist Conference, who believe that the church has waited too long as the servant of the wealthy class; that she has forfeited her right to the confidence and respect of the masses; and who say she is now alive to the crumbling of the old order and wants to save herself by becoming the champion of the people. There is so much truth in this view that we do not hesitate to say that the church is much too far behind to take the lead in this world movement for democracy, justice and service. This is to be much regretted, for if the church had had vision and courage she might have been to-day at the head of the greatest movement yet recorded in history, as it is, her recent activities in declaring for that which she has so often condemned others for advocating is received by the disinherited workers with a cold smile of almost scorn.

However, we welcome the declaration of the Methodist Conference. It not only indicates that the churches may some day become christian, but it shows how fast the movement toward economic justice is spreading. We believe also that the church can still be of service. She will not lead, because she is not able to lead at the present time, but there are valuable elements in the church which will count for much if devoted to righteousness and justice upon the earth.

But it is not enough to pass resolutions. The Methodist minister must come to the people with the enthusiasm of a John Wesley and tell the bankers, the real estate men, the railroad magnates, and all other exploiters to "Repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand." The conference resolution states that—"We look to the Government to enlist in the service of the nation those great leaders and corporations which have shown magnificent capacity in the organization of life and resource for the profit of shareholders." The only trouble with this is that there is no use, absolutely no use, looking to the Government to do this. The situation is that these great leaders and corporations have enlisted the Government in their service and it is the duty of Methodist ministers who pass such resolutions to reverse the order. We believe that the Methodist church is serious in this great utterance, and that if her ministers measure up to their opportunity as we believe they will, there is great hope for democracy in Canada.

A TRIBUTE

IN MEMORIAM

Harry Johnson died on Tuesday, October 30th, in the Edmonton General Hospital, of pneumonia following an attack of influenza. Had he lived one more day Harry would have been 33 years of age.

In his death the Non-Partisan League suffers an irreparable loss, the Province loses a progressive citizen of indomitable energy, and a host of friends will miss a man of sunny ways, genial nature, glad and open hand, and a laugh for every adversity.

Harry was up at Grouard shipping out hay when he contracted the malady and hurried to Edmonton. Unfortunately a mishap to the train in the E.D. & B.C. delayed him five hours, with consequent exposure, and on arrival, despite wires sent ahead, no ambulance was in waiting and he had to make the three miles to the hospital by car, with the results that made his case from the first almost hopeless.

His mother and brother, Herbert, arrived in Edmonton Sunday night and he brightened so that Monday the doctor hoped to pull him through.

The improvement proved only temporary, and, learning on Tuesday morning of his critical condition, I made arrangements and left for Edmonton on the earliest train but received news of Harry's death while on the way up. Arrangements for the funeral had to be postponed through the younger brother, Herbert, having contracted the influenza, and at the time of going to press lay in a serious condition in the same hospital.

Harry Johnson was born in Hartford, Conn., on October 30th, 1885. His father died while he was a child and the mother removed to New York. After leaving high school and while still a youth, Harry entered the service of a large lace firm in the metropolis and in less than three years had risen from an eight dollar a week apprentice to a position as traveller at \$3,000 per year.

The younger brother, Herbert, developed lung trouble and was ordered West, and Harry, being devotedly attached to him, gave up his position and with his mother and brother came to Alberta and settled on a homestead near Alderson, where the family own a section of land and had other interests.

During 1916 Harry made a business trip to Regina, and while there met some of the men of that Province who were enthusiastically interested in the Non-Partisan Movement in North Dakota. Being interested in politics the principles and aim of the movement gripped his attention and he returned to Alberta, interested some of his farmer friends, and with his usual vigor and wholeheartedness assisted largely in forming the Farmers' Non-Partisan League of Alberta, entirely separate and distinct from the organizations in either Saskatchewan or North Dakota. He became a member of the Executive and later took charge of the organization work. Without detracting in the least from the labors of others, who are deserving of great praise, the foundation of the marked success of the movement is due to his influence and energetic work in the field. His personal magnetism and his ability to enthuse others was such that to him largely must be given the credit for the election of the two Non-Partisan members both of whom were at first strongly averse to becoming candidates, and I am glad to pay this tribute to the services rendered and sound judgment displayed by him during the short campaign.

Being exempted from military service he relinquished the duties of organizing and devoted himself to his farm, assuring the Tribunal that if he got a good crop this year, so that he could leave a minimum of business worries to his mother and brother he would forego his exemption and voluntarily offer his services. Unfortunately crops were a complete failure, and the feed conditions being serious he formed an association of farmers and proceeded North with a camp outfit and succeeded in putting up 2000 tons of hay. He was in the act of shipping it in when stricken with the illness that resulted in his death.

The sympathy of his colleagues on the Executive and all members of the League is extended to the sorrowing mother and only brother, while hundreds throughout the Province who knew him will regret the loss of one so big-hearted as Harry was.

—James Weir.

An Appeal to Action

By John Glambeck, Secty. Queenstown U.F.A.

(Continued from last issue)



The day is fast coming when the workers will be convinced that the road to freedom lies in political action. In every effort they now put forth they are confronted with the power of those who control the government. Industrial organizations serve a good purpose, but once we determine to take a hand in shaping the Government of the country then we can hope to make things so that Canada will in reality be, what many claim for it now,—the best place on earth to live in.

The time is gone for going cap in hand and begging the government to do this, that and the other thing for us—the workers must be the government. Then many of the things that bear so heavily to-day can be changed. One sweep could be made of the infamous protective tariff which has robbed the people of millions and placed millions in the pockets of a comparatively few people in Canada. If not, how did they become rich? Our banking laws could be altered and the banks made institutions in existence purely to serve the people instead of making fortunes for directors, who also are directors of many other concerns and do well out of each. Many other things can be enumerated. The interests of the majority of the people would be served first.

In order to get that power, to win at the ballot box we must have an independent political organization and get together with one aim in view. There is nothing more foolish than twenty farmers on election day going to the ballot box and voting ten against ten. These live in friendship and companionship with each other most of the year round and all want the same opportunity for a richer and fuller life, yet each vote, which should be used to serve a great purpose, just nullifies that of his neighbor. The election returns from rural districts show this to be true. The result is we get nowhere, and that is where we are to-day.

The two existing political parties are owned and controlled by the very forces we are fighting and it is evident to accomplish anything we must have an independent political organization. We have the start of such an organization in our Non-Partisan League. Some people look on it as a joke, I know, but while true it is young and weak yet it is there for us to use and to make into a militant fighting force. Over in the States a similar organization is now making great headway. It has been ridiculed, slandered and abused, but in North Dakota the Non-Partisans captured the State Government, and to-day all the reactionary forces in Minnesota, Montana, Idaho, South Dakota and other states are fighting it tooth and nail because they are now alive to the fact that these hard-working farmers are welding themselves together as a fighting force, and when they gain power it will mean an end to the class rule of the past.

Therefore every means possible is now being used to discredit the organization and its leaders, meetings have been broken up and speakers arrested by small tin-pot

sheriffs on any pretence whatever, or else driven out of the country. This is the path of all new movements, once they prove to be worth while all the opposing elements will do their utmost to stem the tide that sets in against them. Our party press have featured many of these instances, all of which goes to prove that the Non-Partisans in the States are a real fighting force and are now getting somewhere.

Well, if right over there why not in Canada. I appeal to every farmer and every worker to join at once, get ready for the battle. The immortal Lincoln is reported to have said that "no country can exist half slave and half free." Neither can we exist in Canada to-day and enjoy any freedom unless the ever increasing power of the moneyed aristocracy is overthrown. And the man who would be free he himself must strike the blow. Stop lamenting about our ills, don't look for any Moses from those who are now on our back to bring us out of the Egyptian slavery—do it ourselves. We can ally ourselves with others fighting for similar principles and the day is fast coming when the battle will be won and victory will rest with the people at home as well as abroad.

But in order to be an effective fighting force we must have a press. All the big papers of the country are more or less controlled by the enemy. Not that there are not editors who know the situation and would like to espouse our cause, but it would interfere with their bread and butter,—they dare not. The life of every big paper in the country depends on its advertising and the minute the editor would dare to speak the truth, this advertising would be withdrawn and the paper killed.

So we must depend on our own press. Our little paper can be made such a paper if you will. Thanks to the efforts of a few who realized the need of an independent journal, it is now well established and at least 7,000 farmers are reading it in this Province. It must therefore be doing good in getting the eyes open of the people we want. And to me the time is now come when more of us should get together and see it established on a right basis. The farmers in Ontario have learnt a lesson and are now endeavoring to start a daily paper and to raise half-a-million dollars to do it. And in order to make our paper of much service it must be made larger and issued at least weekly.

It will take money but if we want our own paper to fight our own battle we must foot the bill. It cannot expect to get big revenue from ads. from the enemy. This is a bad year for the farmers but despite conditions I am certain there are many who feel the need of an independent and effective press, and who would willingly do their part in getting it established. Depend on it, it will mean to us far more than is ever put into it. We must have clear-cut educational articles and it must be made a means of expression for the farmers themselves. There are enough able men with progressive ideas to fill the space of such a paper. And the farmers need education along political lines. So far in the present farm journals he is given shoals of advice on how to farm, how to produce more, and how to make two blades of grass grow where formerly grew only one. Nothing about those who get their fortunes by farming the farmer.

It is time the farmer was educated on how to get a living price for the product he grows and where most of the result of his hard labor goes to. And it is time he is shown what to do to retain for himself and his family the product of his labor.

In short, the time has come when an independent political farmers' press is absolutely necessary. How many think the same and are willing to help? Your ideas are as good as others. Why not promulgate them. Let us start the enterprise and notify the secretary at Calgary what you can do to help. Then we can get together and you can have your say in how the paper can be run. You who are alert, must study the signs of the times. Let all who can take his or her part in the battle. We are only at the beginning of things in Canada to-day.

Yours for action,

—JOHN GLAMBECK.

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The Non-Partisan Movement

"WHY NO POLITICS?"

By James Weir, M.L.A.



In the last issue of the NON-PARTISAN, there appears an article by S. S. Dunham under the caption 'Nuts to Crack by the U.F.A.' in which he warns the U.F.A. against becoming identified with the Non-Partisan League.

Turn about is fair play and as Mr. Dunham has been giving the U.F.A.

Nuts to crack for some months through the Guide, it might interest our members if it didn't add anything to the gaiety of nations if the U.F.A. and the League gave, Mr. Dunham a 'Nut or two to Crack.'

The first one is that any advice the members need would come with better grace from a real farmer who lives on his farm and takes a hand in the manual labor of the farm, rather than from a lawyer who does his farming mostly over the long distance telephone.

Whether or not friend Dunham had any one in particular in mind when he referred to men who might use the U.F.A. "for political aggrandizement," I do not know, but a lawyer who came into the organization representing a local that had been defunct for months, whose advance agent and 'Button-holer-in-extraordinary' got himself delegated from a local miles from where he lived, and who opposed bitterly the engagement of a lawyer by the U.F.A. to look after its interests, and seventy-five per cent. of whose cases the first year consisted of getting back to farmers overcharges by other lawyers amounting in some cases to 100 per cent. over the taxing schedule of the province, should give his advice, no matter how valuable or well meant very charily. Political aggrandizement through the U.F.A., dangerous as it may be to the organization, is infinitely less so than personal aggrandizement. It is so easy for the legal mind to set up a man of straw just for the pleasant and oft times profitless pastime of knocking him down.

The U.F.A. as the Lethbridge Nut Cracker well knows is by its constitution forbidden to enter politics unless it is politically attacked or ignored as an organization. I know no man prominent in the U.F.A. who has made any attempt to use it for political aggrandizement. On every platform on which I spoke in my own election my opening sentence protested against any man or woman voting for me by reason of my connection with the organization either as a private member or as an officer as every one who attended my meetings including my opponents can testify. In the Federal election of December last, in which I reaped the richest harvest of abuse of any man in the public life of Western Canada, never once was my connection with the U.F.A. referred to, except in regard to the refusal of its official organ to publish two letters I had sent to its editor.

I have addressed several meetings this year and at every one urged the necessity of perfecting to the utmost possible limit the organization of the U.F.A. for the purposes set out in its constitution. But I vigorously maintained that there must be some means whereby the farmer could take direct political action, and give poli-

tical expression to his views, whether through the League or otherwise was for the individual to decide.

I have grave doubts of Mr. Dunham's statement as to the "influence" of the U.F.A. to control the politicians. The many resolutions that in the past have been presented to the government, pigeon-holed and forgotten, bear mute testimony to the fact that my doubt is a reasonable one.

Last session of the Legislature the U.F.A. asked for a bill of incorporation. It stood for days in the name of the premier and when I urged its introduction upon him he "passed the buck" to the provincial treasurer. When I went after him he passed it on to a private member. Meantime I learned that it had been handed to the law clerk and he had recommended against almost every clause in it. I then gave notice that if the bill was not petitioned for by a certain date I would present it myself. It then in due time went through the usual form and got before the Private Bills Committee. There the Provincial Treasurer who was unfriendly toward it opposed several of the clauses, but was unable to meet the arguments of Mr. Brownlee and it passed in its original form and, strange to say, for the first time in years the Law Clerks adverse report was never read nor referred to.

I may tell Mr. Dunham that had there not been a U.F.A. member in that house who was not party bound, that bill either would not have passed or would have passed in a form so emasculated, that its author would not have been able to recognize it.

Mr. Dunham says we must handle great questions and problems with imports far deeper than mere questions of politics. What high sounding language! What a Daniel come for judgment! What Camouflage!

The U.F.A. was conceived in the labor of economic oppression. Its founders, humble farmers that they were, began a struggle for freedom and unfurled a flag that we all delight to honor. The infant of less than 10 years ago has grown to lusty manhood and undoubtedly wields an influence, but its growth and its influence have been in no measure due to high sounding but empty platitudes, or to copious strains of panegyric eloquence that butter no parsnips but to the hard common sense views of its members on questions affecting their struggle for existence, be they ever so much of the earth—earthly. He must handle great questions deeper than politics says Mr. Dunham. Well, for me, I shall leave these great questions to Solomon and keep on protesting against paying freight on wheat never hauled, against the control of the Grain markets of the farmers by the members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, against the fixing of the price of my farm product by the geographical situation of Fort William, instead of by the law of supply and demand. Against a Montreal lawyer being made Chairman of the Grain Commissioner, against Dr. McGill being Chairman of the Grain Supervisor's Board, without Salary and secretary of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange at a salary of \$8,000 a year, against a tariff that adds to the hoards of plutocrats while it depletes the pantries of the poor; and a hundred other things that are questions of politics.

"The U.F.A. is bigger and broader and has more important work to do than any political party," says Mr. Dunham. To this I reply in the words of Dr. Sankey or somebody else, "Tweedle, Tweedle, Tweedle Dee; Tweedle, Tweedle, Dum." Sure-

ly one of these bigger and broader and more important works of the organization is not to become a rich field for the exploitation of a Fire and Hail Insurance Company.

Mr. Dunham refers to his address delivered before the Convention some years ago. I recall something of that address. It was the first and last Annual address delivered to date before any Convention. It was like Milton's Paradise Lost, a great work which everybody admires and nobody reads. The Executive went to the expense of printing it and not a copy was ever asked for and hundreds were thrown in the rubbish bin.

Mr. Dunham says: "Indeed the powerful men of this continent are not the politicians." Ah! how true!! The Manufacturers Association has no politics except the protection of its interests. The Carnegies, the Vanderbilts, the Harrimans, and in our own country, the Shaughnessys, the Mackenzies and Manns, and all the rest of the "Powerful" men have not been politicians, but have made of the party politicians puppets ready to their hands. If, however, Mr. Dunham means powerful for the public weal and not for selfish ends, what has he to say of the man whose name is to-day on every lip, his former fellow-countryman—Woodrow Wilson. Was he and is he not a politician in the higher and more respectable acceptance of that term. What of Lincoln (I mean the real Lincoln, not the plaster cast that is being pushed under our noses in some quarters these days), was he not a politician? What of Lloyd George, of Clemenceau, of Venizelos, and the rest? Politics is the business of all the people all the time, and it is the apathy and "Holier than thou" attitude of men like Mr. Dunham who hold aloof and advise others so to do that gives the designing, crafty exploiters their greatest opportunity to accomplish their nefarious purposes.

To-day in Canada a propaganda is under way led by Sir John Willison one of the ablest of our native born, and who has enlisted with him Mrs. Iankhurst and Mrs. McMurphy, and inspired by Clifford Sifton, Lord Northcliffe, Lord Beaverbrook, and their interested allies; which will as surely as the sun shines, place the burden of the war debt in great measure on the farmers and toilers of this country. Unless a united front is shown by the farmers of Canada, they will be compelled to choose—within ten years between economic freedom and economic serfdom, and only through political action and by the election of honest farmers—or farmer-politicians, if you like—to the legislative halls of the nation can this crown of thorns be kept from the brow of the masses. Rather than face this issue, the most perilous, and the most fruitful of evil that we have ever faced, Mr. Dunham advises us to adopt the policy of the ostrich and hide our heads in the sand, listen to patriotic Tom Toms, get into the goose step of the big Interests, and leave our children to struggle under a load that we have failed to do, a man's part to have lifted in our time.

In conclusion, what the U.F.A. and the Non-Partisan League too, needs now as it never needed them before, is men of lion-like courage, of utter fearlessness, of political knowledge and political grasp, and a spirit of generous self-sacrifice who like Caesar dare tell graybeards the truth—though it cost a crown.

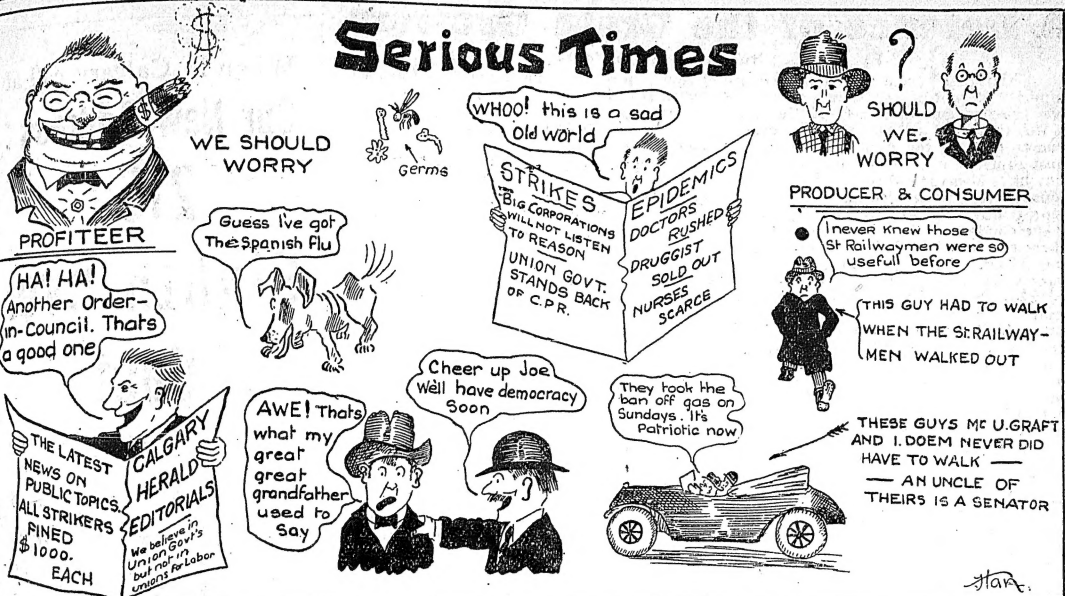
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FARMERS IN ONTARIO START INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION

BEN BOWMAN'S ELECTION ADDRESS

To the Electors of Manitoulin, Ont.

My candidature in the approaching Provincial Election has been imposed on me by my neighbours and friends. It has not been arranged by any outside party or organization, but is a result of a spontaneous and non-partisan movement of the farmers, provoked by conditions which are making a farmer's movement everywhere throughout Canada.

There is a general feeling that the farmer's are unjustly excluded from the public deliberations and that their interests are sacrificed by those who usurp political power. The farmers view with growing anger the bargaining of the party leaders, by which the selection of the members of the Legislature has been passed from the people to Sir William Hearst and Mr. Proudfoot, and popular government set aside in this Province. They view with alarm the preparation made to put upon the farmers an unequal share of the public burdens of the war.

The farmers have not agreed upon a programme or policy to remedy all the ills of which they complain. They are nearly one-half of the people and their production is more important than that of all the rest of the people. Last year the value of the exports of their products exceeded Sir Thomas White says, the value of all the exports of manufacturers. They have, therefore, the right to insist on a just part in the public administration and in the dispositions of the reconstruction period. I know no effective means to that end but to elect their own candidates to the Legislature and Parliament. Beyond this I do not insist on any views of my own. Policies and programmes to which all may agree will come with experience and deliberation.

I solicit, respectfully, your support,
BENIAH BOWMAN.

GRAET OPPOSITION ENCOUNTERED

That the people of Manitoulin Island are public spirited and broadminded is fully demonstrated by their action in nominating, regardless of their old party affiliations, a young farmer to contest the coming bye-election in opposition to the candidate selected by the Tory party machine and endorsed by the Grit party machine.

Thus the independent men of Manitoulin are facing in this election all the machinery of both the old parties, plus the resident Government officials and their influence.

In contesting this election the farmers are condemning the old system that has so long ignored their claim to at least a fair representation in Parliament. They have decided to run a man of their own choice, selected by ballot, and as they are the men who have made the Island what it is they have the right to say who shall represent them, and not be guided, as in the past by the two party machines. Earnest, independent action is propelling the farmers in the best interests of their industry and their country. Should they set an example to the rest of Ontario all honor to Manitoulin.

Great endeavour is being made to defeat this effort of the people to select a man of their own choice. All the machinery of both parties are at work to defeat men earnest but not skilled in election manipulation. Cabinet Ministers tour the Island and officials high in secret organizations also are exhorting the faithful to be false to their industry and to their neighbours. The press also takes a hand to advise these farmers that it is only for them to vote as directed, while the powers that be select the candidate. Every elector should feel his responsibility on October 84th.—J. J. Morrison, Secty United Farmers, Ontario, in the Weekly Sun.

A PRIVILEGE AND A DUTY

To the farmers in Manitoulin there has come a privilege and a duty. The privilege is that of electing one of themselves to represent the constituency in the Legislature. The duty is to see that this privilege is taken advantage of.

There never was a time when the voice of agriculture was weaker in the Ontario Legislature and in the Dominion Parliament than it is at the present time. There never was a time when greater need existed for making the influence of the farmer felt in the shaping of legislation.

Even before the war came provincial and federal expenditure had been going up by leaps and bounds; indebtedness had been steadily mounting. There was reckless spending in all directions. One striking illustration of this was the scandalous waste of over a million dollars for the building of a palace to house a useless Lieutenant-Governor, and which now requires 900 tons of coal a year for heating it. With war expenditures—much of it sheer waste, more of it shameful profiteering—has gone up to figures previously undreamed of. After the war the spirit of extravagance, the habit of dealing in millions will remain. We must have in the Legislature and in Parliament men who know what a dollar represents in toil and sweat.

And no man knows and appreciates that value as does the man—the farmer—who digs his dollars out of the ground.

The farmers of Canada have too long neglected their duty; they have too long failed in appreciation of their privileges. They have allowed the professional and business interests to monopolize the representation even of rural ridings. Let Manitoulin, in which agriculture is far and away the most important industry, lead in the better way by electing on the 24th a farmer, and a capable man, as its representative.

W. L. SMITH, in the Weekly Sun.

A Defence of the Grain Growers

By J. C. Buckley. of Gleichen

Although I have a very high estimate of your paper as an educational factor against impurity in politics, etc., I was greatly grieved to read in your issue of September 27th, over the signature of Mr. C. L. Carp, a letter attacking Mr. T. Crerar, which I believe at this time is unjustified, and also attacking the United Grain Growers, which is hardly true to fact. I can find no trace of him being a shareholder or a U.F.A. member, so must conclude it is the voice of our enemies, the "big interests", as these are the tactics they have always used to inject discord amongst the members of our respective organizations, keeping us divided and impotent to oppose them in our fight for justice. Whether it be U.F.A., U.G.G., Non-Partisan or any other farmers' organization, any complaint of the conduct of those representing us can be dealt with when we meet in Convention, where the accused will have full scope to explain his conduct, and it can be frankly discussed and passed on by the members, but it is hardly fair play to make an attack in a place where there is no chance to defend himself.

Now, Sir, I don't hold any brief for Mr. Crerar and will be one of the first to condemn his actions when I am satisfied he has neglected our interests, and would like to state why I take this stand. When he joined the Union Government, I, with many other farmers, thought he was getting into bad company, at the same time believed (and do so still) he was sincere and honest in his conviction that it was his duty to do so, as we farmers were always complaining we were mis-represented by professional men instead of being represented by a farmer, and I heard him state at a public meeting that although the paramount question was winning the war, yet he would not abate one jot of his demands for the fulfilment of the Farmers' Platform as laid down by the Canadian Council of Agriculture, so I think we should withhold our judgment until the war is won, and then if he fails to keep his vow, it will be the time to condemn.

Now, re charges against the Grain Growers, that the company is growing immensely rich and at the same time declining from its former attitude of leader in thought and action on behalf of the Agriculturists; to the first charge I am delighted, as a shareholder, to plead guilty, and I trust its growth may never be stunted, as its profits are not used for the further enrichment of individuals who are already immensely rich, but are used, after paying the shareholders 10 per cent. dividend, in endeavoring to emancipate not only the shareholders but farmers and consumers in general from bondage to the profiteers. I trust the day is not far distant when every farmer from the Atlantic to the Pacific will see it is both his duty and privilege to become a shareholder and a patron and assist in making the company all it should be instead of supporting the interests who have heretofore kept us divided so that we might be an easy prey for themselves and their kin.

The next charge can, I think, best be answered by reviewing the status of the farmer before the company got on its feet and now when it has become fairly efficient, as actions speak louder than words, although still far from perfect.

BEFORE

Grain Department

Farmers not allowed to load cars on track but forced to put their grain through elevators owned by the private interests. We are informed that it is freely admitted by old-time grain men that in those days even with a comparatively small handling of grain, they more than paid for their elevators the first season.

* * *

Grain bought on very wide spreads.

Grain under-graded.

Grain over-docked.

AFTER

Farmers allowed to load on track and over loading platforms.

Later the building of elevators by the farmers' own company.

The drawing up of rules and regulations for country elevators.

The creating of the special bin privileges, thereby enabling the farmer to have his grain handled on commission.

The passing of the Grain Act, which, with all its faults, is the farmers' book of emancipation in the grain business.

The margin on which grain is bought in country elevators narrowed up. A close scrutiny of the country elevator lists of six to twelve years ago as compared with the Winnipeg price, and a comparison of the same country elevator lists during the past four or five years is sufficient evidence of this, and many farmers know from experience.

Grain graded on a more equitable basis and the private elevator interests forced to special bin grain to a certain extent by the introduction of the special binning by farmers' companies, special binning providing the farmer with a means of assuring himself that he secures the Government Inspector's grade on his grain, also, the Inspector's dockage.

Regulations providing every elevator to be equipped with Government stamped testing scales and sieves, so that samples of every load of grain may, if necessary, be tested for weight and dockage, the testing sieves being exactly the same as used by the Government Inspectors. Even when selling his grain to an elevator, the farmer does not have to accept the agent's grade, but under the regulations of the Canada Grain Act, can insist on the Grain Buyer sending a sample of the load to the Government Inspector and then force the company to buy the load on the grade set by the Government Inspector.

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General

The farmers had absolutely no mouth-piece through which they could present their grievances or conduct educational campaigns for the purpose of causing legislation in the interests of the farmers.

The establishment of The Grain Growers' Guide, which, in spite of any criticism which might be made of it, we believe even those who have not always agreed with the stand which it has taken will admit has been the one and only paper in Canada which has consistently fought for the farmer. This paper would not have been possible had it not been for the farmers' own company.

During the past two years very effective work has been carried on by the Canadian Council of Agriculture. This has only been made possible by the increased financial strength of the Saskatchewan Co-Operative Elevator Company and United Grain Growers, Limited, these companies, being the commercial end of the farmers' organizations, having been assessed a sufficient sum to carry on the work of the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Until the formation of the Canadian Council, the farmers had no central organization to deal with the authorities at Ottawa. The Canadian Council is now recognized all over Canada as a body truly representative of the organized farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Ontario, and taking one result alone of its work during the past two years, it has saved the farmers enough money to pay their subscriptions to their organizations for years to come. This was the refusal of the Canadian Council of Agriculture to consider the proposed price of \$1.30 per bushel for wheat for the 1917 crop with the result that at a later date the farmer secured \$2.21.

Mr. Carp's statements are to the effect that the United Grain Growers have declined during the past few years; that is, that they have not been of the benefit they were to the farmers in previous years. This is where Mr. Carp is entirely wrong, as any man closely in touch with the organization knows that the benefits received by the farmers in the way of reduced prices and by a general improvement in trade conditions caused by the competition of the company have never been so great as they have been during the past two or three years, and this only by reason of the attainment of the financial strength which in Mr. Carp's opinion is an undesirable feature. In the early history of the farmers' organizations much good work was done, but a close enquiry into and scrutiny of the work done by United Grain Growers during the past two or three years does not warrant a statement such as made by Mr. Carp.

Hoping to see further discussion by farmers on this subject. —JOHN C. BUCKLEY.

Ed. Note.—Mr. Buckley's article is appreciated. We hope to have a reply from Mr. Carp for our next issue.

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The Non-Partisan Movement

THE CAMPAIGN IN DAKOTA

By C. W. McDonnell

Kensal, N.D., Oct. 22nd, 1918



No doubt some of the echoes of the campaign we are having can be heard in Alberta, but I can assure you that none can have an idea of what is going on unless right here.

Word was given out that a big slush fund was to be raised in this state, and that the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce

would contribute an equal amount to defeat the League candidates. There is no doubt that this has been done. Those who called the farmers "Sixteen Dollar Suckers" are now being played for from \$25.00 to \$1,000.00 according to copies of letters published in the League papers. Truth, consistency and good judgment have been thrown to the winds by the opposition, and they are putting on a campaign against the League which can only be compared to the German campaign in Belgium, if a political campaign can be compared with one along military lines.

Several organizations have been started since the last session of the Legislature, the sole object of which was to beat the League. None of them lasted long, but when the National Government began to put much of the League program into effect as war measures, and they were found to work as well or better than the League ever claimed, and that there was a prospect of the railroads, telegraph and telephone lines and the grain business not going back to private control after the war, the big interests woke up in earnest. They criticised the Government as much as they dared, and decided to wreck the League, if possible.

As an instance of what they will do just consider Roosevelt and some of his latest utterances. Of course he had four sons in the service, but so have others. He has criticised the Administration unmercifully—said things that an ordinary citizen would no doubt have been arrested for. During the last Liberty Bond Campaign, he made a flying trip through the West, ostensibly to boost the Bond sales, with his wonderfully patriotic speeches. Correspondence and telegrams have come to light, however, proving beyond doubt that it was arranged for political effect, that one F. H. Carpenter arranged it, and paid or guaranteed the expenses. Carpenter is a millionaire lumberman, a prominent old-style Republican politician.

Every reactionary paper in the State carries nearly every issue a half page and sometimes a full page political advertisement against the League. They contain the most foolish and childish arguments possible to conceive. They appear to be doubtful of electing Doyle governor, and are concentrating on the constitutional amendments. A governor is elected every two years, but the amendments are hard to remove.

Doyle started out with a big meeting of 110 in his home town. Found he was not a very good drawing card alone so now he rents the movie houses for 20 minutes between shows, and with the new-comers and hang-overs manages to

get a fairly good crowd sometimes. The "Flu" does not appear to cut down his crowds—probably because those who can stand his line of talk would not mind a few "Flu" germs. Or perhaps his talk has antiseptic properties.

We hope to win out November 5th. It would be a great set-back to fail at this time. It is inconceivable that that reactionary crowd should get hold of the government of this state, especially at this time.

—C. W. McDONNELL.

HOMESTEADERS AIMS

By S. Stevenson, (Pres. U.F.A.,
Craigmyle, Alta.).

I am willing to plead guilty! The getting of the almighty dollar, has been the primary, pressing, though not the ultimate aim of the homesteader.

It was seldom a matter of choice, but was necessary to his being able to hold out on the land. Most of us after eight or ten years of roughing it have found out that: it takes money and lots of it, as well as pluck, perseverance, endurance and the conservation of our resources—to a point perhaps never dreamed of, when we put out from the old home and pushed Westward, or Northward—to get along. We left much behind us that we valued:—Comfortable homes, old friends and acquaintances, good schools, churches, and social conditions that we did not expect to equal for a time. These it is true, we might have secured, by accepting jobs in the cities, but it seemed too much like sacrificing better future prospects for our selves and children, to present comforts and conveniences, preferring to endure the hardships in the hope of securing a little later a reasonable measure of these. It is not that we valued the dollar more.

It is true that we did not fully comprehend the hardships, handicaps, and hindrances we were to encounter; some inevitable, as drouth, hail, frost, &c., others thrust upon us; as the Tariff, high Railway rates, duty on implements we were to use, high rates of interest, grain speculation, and other vicious legislation, enacted solely for the benefit and enrichment of a class that arrogate to themselves, in the name of Labor and Patriotism the right to rob us and as a consequence shatter the realization of our ideals—some of the comforts and conveniences that we left behind, that many of our city confreres enjoy, that make life worth living.

The Responsibility!

The responsibility, for this failure of the farmer to reach the goal, lies not as a rule with the pioneer farmer or his family, who work long weary hours and often had to pinch to make ends meet, nor with the laborer, or general consumer, who has to pay the price demanded, while the farmer has to take what is offered. The responsibility lies with the Railroads, the Millers, the Grain Profiteer and our Political System.

We hear a great deal at times about \$2.00 wheat, and sometimes our friend the consumer is led to believe that in consequence of this price that the farmer is piling up riches. Speaking from actual experience I can say that he is not making as much as when he was getting \$1.00 or less. Sometimes he is described as, "A Profiteer."

It is needless to point out that his expenses are enormous, for help, board, machinery, repairs, and general supplies, on which no price that restricts has been set, while the prices set on his wheat was

set for him, and only a maximum at that, excepting for this year's crop which is scarce and where there is no likelihood of the supply permitting a fall in price—a minimum also was set.

It is evident from the Annual Statement just made, that the alleged restrictions put on the millers was not effective, or was not enforced when the earnings of one of them got as high as 136 per cent. and on a good deal of water at that. Every effort is consequently being made by the C.M.A. in newspaper articles and otherwise, to set enmity between the farmer, and the laborer and consumer, by trying to beloud the issue and make the latter believe that the farmer and not the miller and manufacturer is the profiteer—with the ultimate aim of preventing these classes joining hands, and voting for men that will not tolerate this thing.

The net result of the existing state of things in agriculture is:—that the country is losing its population to the towns and cities in an ever increasing ratio.

Our young men and maidens are concluding, daily, that the financial, social, and living conditions of the city are better and surer than that of the country, with the result that in non-war times the cities are crowded, and from being producers, these people become consumers that have to be fed, and entering into competition with the laborer for such jobs as are to be had as well as making living dearer. This therefore, is a most deplorable state of affairs, viewed from whatever point you will, except that of the manufacturer, who from the increased competition will get labor cheaper.

The Remedy!

In my last, the responsibility, I hinted at the necessity of joint action by the farmer, the consumer, and the laborer, that they might compel better legislation.

Speaking from the viewpoint of the farmer. Already we have done something by way of redress, through agitation, and education. The question now arises, shall we, the U.F.A. and kindred farmers' organizations, form a separate (third) political party, or shall we attach ourselves to one of the two we already have, on the supposition that they promise, Free Trade, Free Implements, and a few of the reforms that we have been agitating for? I would say No. Why? First because we already have too much party, and secondly, if I read the history of the past farmers organizations aright, such action has proven the graveyard of all those that tried it. To-day our own organization, is doing good work, educating, and agitating, and are beginning to attract from their size, the attention of he present parties. Let us add to our numbers by all means, and remain as we are, detached. This, is our only safe course as an organization.

Does that mean that, we should not take political action? By no means. Let us as units of farmers, or constituencies apart from the U.F.A. decide on what we want, pick out our men, and pledge them to our principles, and send them to parliament as Independents—Non-Partisans, if you will, as long as they represent us. This is the only safe course, as we came near finding out to our sorrow in 1917, when some of our men were tempted to enter the Union Government. By the means named we avoid the contention and division along the old party lines that otherwise is sure to occur. To do nothing but agitate, though still necessary, is too slow, if we of the present generation are to secure redress. Alone it is not enough, we must do as I have suggested and bring the pressure of votes to bear.

—S. STEVENSON

The Non Partisan Letter Box

"GOOD CRITICISM"

Gleichen, October 19th, 1918.

EDITOR, ALBERTA NON-PARTISAN:—

I wish to congratulate you upon the marked improvement in your paper. In your last issue the contributions of Messrs. Glambeck, C. W. McDonnell, of N. D. and Mr. Galbraith gives food for thought and is something for us all to ponder over. The article of Mr. S. S. Dunham and your argument in commenting on it is helpful, and the summarized extracts from the address of H. W. Wood is inspiring to all who value the future of democracy in Canada.

The letter from W. M. Hodson, I fully agree with, I do not object to any fair criticism of the Guide if it is pointed out where Mr. Chipman is making mistakes and give your ideas of what he should do, but to carry the idea that the Guide is not working in the interests of the organized farmers simply does harm and no good can come from such expressions.

It is not to be expected that Mr. Chipman or any other man can edit a paper to be read by fifty thousand people who are all thinking for themselves and suit all of them. The Guide is doing a good work and I believe is just as sincere as your own paper and by a friendly criticism you can be of help to its editor and to its readers by giving them another view point to think from.

I do not care for such articles as your "Current History," as I can see no good to come from it. I would much prefer to see you take up just what these men have said and done which you consider is not right and point out where it is wrong and what they should be doing and saying if they were working in the interests of the people.

If you do not feel safe in criticism why not simply quote their utterances and ask what is meant by it. Put it in a way to put people thinking and let them know we do not approve of what they are doing and saying without slurring them and arousing their prejudice without doing any good.

In this age there is nothing to be gained by being too radical, but it is much better to be fair and put forth convincing arguments for people to consider, as it is the arguments which count in these days and not radical statements without convincing arguments to back them up.

Radicalism is often needed to start reforms but the man with the good sound arguments is the one to convince the people when once you get them to thinking.

Yours respectfully,

W. D. TREGO

ADVOCATES ESTABLISHING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT AS WELCOME TO OUR HEROES

Strathmore, October 20th, 1918.

EDITOR, ALBERTA NON-PARTISAN

Splendid! Every issue of the Non-Partisan seems better than the one before and the beauty of nearly every item is original matter, rich in democratic thought, contributed by our fellow citizens. I thought Jim Weir's review of Alberta's "Book of Horrors," a masterpiece, and I would like Alberta Cundal to contribute more.

The subject matter in the last issue gives cause for discussion for we are all learning in the great school of democracy, anxious to be taught and to know and to be set right, taught, hungering and thirsting for "The Truth." I was glad you published

the gems of truth from President Wood's grand speech. He spoke of the greatest democrat who ever lived, who I would like to point out, was taken seriously in his day only by the populace. As evidence, one gentleman sneeringly asked: "Have any of the chief priests or rulers ever believed in Him? Again this "friend of publicans and sinners" did not stop with tongue lashing the great men—ecclesiastical and political—but he overturned their money tables in the temple and drove these profiteers out with a scourge, and they dared not touch him, "for fear of the multitude."

Mr. Wood did not quite make plain the matter of selfishness. The golden rule lays down this principle, "Love your neighbour as yourself." The animal ego or untutored individual knows nothing of co-operation, to him "self-preservation" is the only law, which gradually develops into self-aggrandisement and reaches its limit in our friend(?) Kaise Bill, the All-Highest.

The cultured or educated mind knows that "selfishness" gives place to "self-interest," and therefore realizes that to love (seek the highest good of) your neighbour, you must understand the highest good of yourself. Picture a man asking another to help him carry his burden and then taking the long end of the bar and letting the other fellow have the short or heaviest end. Alright, until the other one got wise to the dodge, and then—? Until we realize that the privilege we have to-day may be overshadowed by the privilege others will have some other time, the idea of privilege will never be discarded. And with that understanding and ideal clearly before him President Wilson proclaims in his immortal address: "I speak for those who have no privilege." In other words for the publicans and sinners of our day.

Co-operation, therefore, becomes the keynote to industrial and commercial development under a democracy. Further, Mr. Wood says: "Democratic organizations take the form of class organizations." Whoa! we get the point but must not get mixed. As opposed to democratic organizations we have autocratic organizations. There is no go between. Any form of organizations which has an officer who is not there for service is not democratic. Whether in industry, church, or state the leaders must be for the good of the entire organization, and to be democratic we should have and must exercise the right of recall. Hence, the class organization will be the organization of the workers,"—the non-producers. Democracy means "Come let us reason together" and as a result we follow the path of scientific research and make progress according to well developed plans.

Mr. Wood states this condition of affairs will be the work of ages, though he previously stated that in the four years of war the allies had progressed further in this method of organization than in the previous four hundred years.

Now, President Wilson, as the mouthpiece of the new democracy, states every profiteer is a direct agent of all the Kaiser stands for, and he has done much for those who have no privileges in organizing the railroads, the express companies, the soldiers' insurance—soon to become universal—and many other of the huge monopolies for service, besides many other examples of the overturn of competition in favor of co-operation. I fully believe when peace has been concluded—embedded on the eternal rock of justice—the king-

dom of heaven or the city wherein dwelleth righteousness will obtain, everyone of us overjoyed to meet his fellowman as a brother with but one song: "Peace on earth, goodwill towards all men." It is worth working for?

Fellow-citizens, let us get together and prepare a welcome for our heroes by establishing a government by the initiative, referendum and recall. Let us reinforce our warriors at home, Mrs. McKinney and Jas. Weir, and replace all our "dearest premiers" by men who, like Mr. Wood, seek only to serve.

Yours for the democratic offensive,
—D. F. Boissevain.

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THE PROBLEM OF DEMOBILISATION



The day when the problem of the demobilisation of our gallant armies must be faced may yet be distant but if it came to-morrow it would undoubtedly be attended with considerable confusion and there is little sign that our Government have given the problem the necessary thought or made any preliminary plans for its smooth solution. It is an event that should be provided for long in advance, and in Great Britain the military authorities are now co-operating with the Ministry of Labor in organizing a scheme to rehabilitate, as soon as peace comes, our soldiers into civil life with the maximum of celerity and the minimum of discomfort. Their plans are so far advanced that they have been able to hold a rehearsal in a camp near London of the methods proposed for demobilisation. Under the circumstances a short summary of the plan which was rehearsed may be interesting to our readers and possibly afford some inspiration to our officials.

The methods followed have the merit of simplicity. Before the men who are in foreign service receive orders for home, they will be mustered in groups in the order of the districts of their origin. Liverpool men for example, who may have joined Scotch, Irish or Welsh regiments will be collected from the different units to which they belong, brought to the coast, embarked in a batch and taken direct to the demobilisation depot in or near Liverpool. Each man will carry with him all his kit, including his arms and personal equipment, steel helmet and box respirator but his ammunition will have been returned to stores. At the reception huts in the depot the soldier will be expected to hand over all his accoutrements. If he has lost his rifle, bayonet or any other piece of equipment, an explanation will have to be given. If it has been lost by accident or misfortune nothing further will be said but if the weapon has disappeared as a result of careless negligence or misconduct its value will be deducted from his arrears of pay.

The soldier then passes through a series of huts before he is sent on a month's furlough. Each hut will contain a staff of attendants sufficient to meet all require-

ments with the utmost possible dispatch. In one he is given what is called his protection certificate containing full particulars of his regiment, length of service and distinction. Scrupulous care will be exercised in this manner. In another department the soldier will be given a portion of his arrears of pay and a transportation warrant to his home. Simultaneously he will get a document made out to the chief Postmaster of his district which will entitle him to receive in three equal instalments during his month's furlough, the balance owing to him either in deferred pay, service gratuities or from any other source. The man is also if he desires it, presented with an unemployment insurance policy which gives him the benefit of unemployment insurance under Mr. Lloyd George's famous insurance act and therefore entitles him to receive a fixed weekly sum from the state via the Postoffice, for a definite period while he is unemployed. The rate and the period will be fixed when the time comes.

It is inevitable that many of the men when they reach the demobilization station will not be in such a perfect condition of health as would render their immediate discharge to their home advisable. This contingency has also been provided for; medical officers will be present and all who are not in fairly good health will be kept in a hospital until they recover. When the soldiers have been removed from the control of the War Office the Ministry of Labor will take in hand the problem of their distribution to civil employment. Up to the point of dispersal, the Labor Ministry have the co-operation of the army authorities; thereafter it will seek the aid of the trade unions, and the arrangements for this latter stage of the process are now being worked out. The Ministry of Labor has kept in close touch with employers and on every side there is visible among them an excellent disposition to welcome back as employees the men who left their services to fight the battles of freedom. The Ministry of Labor is ascertaining what men are most urgently required in industry and these will be released earlier than any others.

An army will have to be maintained after the war, especially to replace men in garrison duty in India who will be entitled to and anxious to get home and it is expected that many will accept the Government's invitation to remain with the colors. All who have no definite occupations to return to will naturally remain in the army longer than those who have got jobs in sight. The policy of the Government is to release artisans and mechanics with the utmost speed so that

they can be added to the forces which will be necessary for the country's industrial recuperation. Doubtless before the day of demobilization arrives, flaws in the scheme will be discovered and will have to be removed and actual experience of its workings will probably suggest further improvements. But the plans are the result of very careful study and consideration and the success of the rehearsal holds out every promise of a smooth working system of demobilisation. Our Canadian Government would do well to formulate plans of a similar nature against the day of peace.

There will be many plans and schemes of demobilization but one cardinal principle must always be kept in mind. Canada in all decency must not allow the process of demobilisation to proceed to suit the convenience of the military authorities. We as a nation invited these men to leave their homes and occupations at our convenience. We cannot as soon as their work in the field is accomplished, which we hope it soon may be, cast them adrift and bid them fend for themselves. If the army were hastily disbanded in bulk, the resulting scramble for jobs would be deplorable, wages would fall and the standard of living for the working class would inevitably decline. Whenever there are a number of men competing for jobs, employers are able to offer whatever wages they choose and there is nothing the capitalist class like so well as a falling labor market. Our economic situation in the first year of peace will find us with an overstocked labor market and a minimum of employment, to go round. If, however, we lay down the principle that no man must be discharged from the army until he has signified his willingness to return to civilian life, a different state of affairs would arise. Men looking for work would not need to accept the first job which came to hand as long as they had the reserve of military pay and separation allowance to fall back upon. They would be able to keep the employer at arm's length and drive bargains which would not put them in the position of undercutting their fellow-workers. The efforts both of the returned soldiers and the labor organization should be directed to forcing upon the Government the acceptance of this principle. Once this is achieved it will be possible to plan schemes for coping with the inevitable dearth of employment, which is likely to ensue and see for them reasonable chances of success.

—BYSTANDER.



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doe,
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—YOUNG.

In this sombre age, when the gaiety of
nations seems to have suffered total
eclipse, and when

"Just and youthful jollity,
Quips and cranks and wanton wiles,
Nods and becks, and wreathed smiles,"

would appear to have forsaken this dull
world, anything that may raise an innocent
laugh, or even the faintest similitude of a
smile, can ill be spared by the commonalty,
and it is therefore with a feeling of regret
that we learn of the intention shortly to
place under temporary ban, in the interests
of the conservation of newsprint, and
presumably by order in council, our old
and esteemed friends Mutt and Jeff, Jiggs
and Maggie, the Katzenjammer Kids,
Snookums, and the rest of that jovial
crowd who have for so long disported in
the pages of the "comic supplements."

True it is that one with a fairly well
developed sense of humor may still find
matter for mirth in more unexpected
places; we confess we seldom glance through
our daily paper without having our risible
faculty titillated by the humor displayed,
perhaps unconsciously, in the editorials,
the headlines, nay, in the very news items
themselves; while, so long as "Windermere"
continues to contribute those delightful
dispatches of his to our esteemed contem-
porary, we cannot wholly relinquish our-
selves to the conclusion of the Scottish
bard, that "man was made to mourn."

But we fear that much of our enjoyment
in this direction may not be shared to any
great extent by the mass of our fellow
countrymen. The large diffusion of
Scottish blood in the people of this Dominion
is perhaps responsible for the apparent
deadening of that keen sense of humor in
the possession of which the Anglo-Saxon
race was wont to pride itself. At any
rate, public taste on this side of the
Atlantic would seem to run in the direction
of the slapstick variety of humor, of
which Charlie Chaplin is so eminent an
exponent, rather than to that more subtle
and refined form occasionally indulged in
by certain of our leading statesmen and
publicists, in an apparent endeavor to
wrest from the said Charlie his title of
"the funniest man on the American
continent."

In which contest of wit, we have hitherto
felt inclined to award the bays to the
Minister of Labor; but since reading
some of the advertisements recently
emanating from the Ministry of Finance,
in a campaign apparently having for
object the inculcation in this most christian
people of the most unchristian virtue of
thrift, we are led to think that, despite
Mr. Carnegie's recent pronouncement that
great financiers rarely laugh, someone in
that most unpropitious quarter must have
developed a funny bone.

We dearly love a literary allusion, and
have ourselves often found amusement
and edification in conjoining wise and
ancient saws to modern instances. Genius
knows neither time nor place; the pre-
served wit and wisdom of the ages has
universal application, being indeed, "not
of an age but for all time." Still, there is
a danger in the over indulgence of this
passion for literary citation, and an inept
quotation may be as misleading as a false
analogy.

Although Kaiser Wilhelm, like another
august personage to whom he has been
frequently likened, may be over fond of

citing scripture to his purpose, we have
not noticed any reference by him to the
Sermon on the Mount; equally malapropos
would be any reference by the Censor to
Milton or Wordsworth; the Food Con-
troller would hardly set before us as
examples to be followed, Shakespeare's
jolly knight, Falstaff, or the Pickwickian
fat boy; nor would Sir Joseph Flavelle
be likely to make frequent allusion to
the Essays of Bacon.

But what are we to think when the
Ministry of Finance, in a supreme effort
to impress upon us the virtue of economy,
appeals to the advice of one whose name
has long been a byword for unthriftly im-
pecuniosity, one who was continuously
the victim of "pecuniary involvements
of a complicated nature," and whose
invariable rule under all circumstances
was to "wait for something to turn up,"
—in short, as he himself would have put
it, to Wilkins Micawber!

"Charles Dickens," reads this remark-
able advertisement, "is one of the world's
great teachers. Here is what he has to
say in one of his books:—

"My other piece of advice, Copperfield,"
said Mr. Micawber, "you know. Annual
income £20, annual expenditure £19.19.6
result, happiness. Annual income £20,
annual expenditure £20.0.6—result, mis-
ery. The blossom is blighted, the leaf is
withered, the God of Day goes down
upon the dreary scene, and—in short,
you are forever floored. As I am."

Had the Minister of Finance allowed
up his literary research a little further, he
might have added Copperfield's ironic
comment, "After which, he borrowed a
shilling of me for porter," or his further
suggestive advice to his friend Traddles,
"Micawber don't mean any harm, poor
fellow, but if I were you, I wouldn't lend
him anything."

"Still," says Micawber upon another
occasion, "my advice is so far worth the
taking that—in short, I have never taken
it myself." In which he would seem to
have been a worthy prototype of the
Minister of Finance, if the present condi-
tion of the national exchequer, annual

income \$232,601,294, annual expenditure
\$498,342,388, be any criterion. But we
presume that while an excess of expendi-
ture over income amounting to a humble
"tanner" per annum may be a matter of
the greatest importance to the individual,
a like excess of something over two
hundred and sixty million dollars on the
part of the State is but a mere bagatelle,
to be made up by borrowing shillings for
porter, or by waiting for something to
turn up.

Readers of Dickens will recollect that
Micawber ultimately retrieved his broken
fortunes in Australia, where he ultimately
rose to the high rank of magistrate of the
Port Middlebay district, the inhabitants
of which he described as "remote, but
neither unfriendly, melancholy—nor slow."
To what giddy heights might he have
winged his eagle flight in this free and
democratic country! Here, surely, was
his legitimate sphere of action, where his
command of ornate and flowery language,
his relish in the formal piling up of words,
his knack of giving advice whilst himself
carefully abstaining from acting upon it,
and his genius for the raising of loans from
all and sundry, his manifold talents—in
short—might, in the fine phrase of Mrs.
Micawber, have "fully developed them-
selves and found their true expression."
What a Minister of Finance he would have
made us!

—SARDONICUS.

Water that remains still turns foul and
stagnant. The same is true of society.
What does not move forward dies. Are
you a dead one?



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question: "How much is
expected of me?"

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